

# ***TURKEY HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL***

March 5, 2013

## ***Minutes of Meeting***

Meeting called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Present were Timothy Santry, Heidi Champagne, Beth Arsenault, Bob, Gail Okerman, Laura Friend, Wendy Bertrand, Shelly King

Beth Arsenault read the minutes. There were no corrections.

### **Handbooks**

- Decided that the 4<sup>th</sup> grade will receive no handbook, instead a letter will be sent home for parents to review the information with their children at home.
- SAC will look through the drafted changes, which will be presented to the School Committee, and email any possible revisions to Mr. Santry to be discussed at the April 23<sup>rd</sup> SAC meeting

### **MCAS Schedule**

- Between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade, there are 22 small instructional groups which is possible to arrange on the same test date, however the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades exceed this and need to be tested on separate testing dates
- Testing dates are generally Tuesdays and Wednesdays for a three week stretch from 3/19 to 4/3, leaving a 2 day make-up window.
- Snacks are provided to the test takers in the morning homeroom period prior to testing.
- The school observes an “MCAS mode” that provides an optimal testing atmosphere; this includes no meetings or visitors to the building. Restricted hallway and locker usage, and minimal bathroom visits.

### **Empty Bowls Project**

- To provide needed funds to a school in New Jersey that is still recovering from Hurricane Sandy, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will paint bowls for the Empty Bowl Project Dinner to be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5pm to 8pm.
- Soup, bread, and salad will be donated by local businesses and community members may come and dine to raise the funds.
- The students are also participating in a pen pal project with students of the same NJ school.

### **Visioning and Planning Committee**

- As part of the feasibility study for our new secondary school, a visioning and planning committee will participate in a three day seminar/discussion by presenter Frank Locker. Mr. Locker will help procure the committee's vision of a 6 through 12 school and present it to the MSBA.
- The committee was open to parents, administrators, community members, teachers and students.
- The meeting dates are March 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm at the TCP cafeteria.

### **Early Bus Schedule**

- Mr. Santry has successfully worked out the early bus schedule. THMS students may take the early bus to the high school and then board Bus 1 which will bring them here for extra help.

### **Green initiatives (project based learning opportunities)**

- Possible after school club to oversee the collected local school fundraisers next fall. The current initiatives are Box Tops, Hannaford, Terracycle Juice, and Campbells)

### **Spelling Bee**

- The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade finalists competed to one final winner (Logan O'Connell) as well as the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade finalists (Ashley Blatt).
- There was a quiet competition between just the two semi-finalists, and Ashley Blatt will be moving on to the Regionals on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Four Points Sheraton.

### **Rescheduled Great Books Learning Walk**

- Due to weather, Fred Hang could not come to the Learning Walk. It has been rescheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>, and a feedback day on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 5:32pm.

The next meeting will be April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm.